



**Connecticut
Light & Power**

The Northeast Utilities System



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**TESTIMONY
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
and YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY**

**Environment Committee
March 16, 2012**

**Re: H.B. 5121 – An Act Concerning the Use of Organic Pesticides on School Property and
Authorizing Municipal Regulation of the Use of Pesticides on Residential**

The Connecticut Light and Power Company and Yankee Gas oppose HB-5121 for the following reasons:

- The state DEEP is the authority with the expertise to regulate and administer the pesticide application laws and regulations in the state of Connecticut. To remove this authority by eliminating state pre-emption of pesticide use would allow each and every municipality to have their own decisions as to how they want to regulate any pesticide application within their town limits. Towns do not have the ability to perform the testing and review of pesticides to make the sound judgements on pesticide regulation - this is why this must remain with the state DEEP. There could be as many different regulations and ordinances as there are towns in the state which would make it very difficult to comply with each and every town's requirements when managing the growth of vegetation within the intrastate transmission system.
- Since most towns will not be able to regulate pesticides as they would most likely violate the Federal Insecticide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) - their only option will be to ban the outright use of any pesticides within their town borders. This will result in infestations of pests and invasive plants in all areas of the state since pesticide applications will not be allowed.
- CL&P has easements and have purchased the rights to use pesticides (herbicides) to control vegetation along our rights-of-way and the state and rail systems must use these products to provide for safe and clear access along highways and railways. By having to deal with the multitude of regulations and restrictions each and every time the company crosses a town line will make it impossible to manage these right-of-ways.